

**I. LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior versions, listing and amendments to the claims.

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously Presented) A method for preparing substantially homogenous and biologically functional IKK protein complex comprising transforming a yeast with an IKK subunit gamma  $\gamma$  gene and an IKK subunit alpha ( $\alpha$ ) gene and/or an IKK subunit beta ( $\beta$ ) gene and growing said yeast and separating said IKK protein complex from said yeast thereby preparing substantially homogenous and biologically functional IKK protein complex .
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein one or more of said IKK subunit  $\gamma$  gene, or IKK subunit  $\alpha$  gene or IKK subunit  $\beta$  gene further comprises a sequence encoding a tag.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said tag is selected from the group consisting of myc, HA, FLAG and 6his.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said IKK subunit gene is linked to an inducible promoter or a constitutive promoter.
- Claims 8 through 16 (Canceled).
17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said yeast is *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.
18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said IKK subunit gene is a mammalian IKK gene.
19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein said mammalian IKK subunit gene is a human IKK subunit gene.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said yeast is grown in selective liquid media.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said IKK subunit gene encodes a wild-type IKK subunit protein.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said IKK subunit gene encodes a mutated IKK subunit protein.

Claims 24 – 41. (Canceled)